

1 1. (currently amended) A graphical user interface for specifying an action to be
2 performed on a field of a record stored in a memory device when a query with which the
3 action is associated returns the record, the query being executed on a processor that has
4 access to the memory device and interacts with the graphical user interface,

5 the graphical user interface comprising:

6 a window containing a table wherein the field of the record has an entry that is
7 selectable by the user, the entry including

8 a first field of the entry that identifies the field of the record to be acted on;

9 and

10 one or more action fields of the entry that, when the user has selected the
11 entry, the user may set to specify the action.

1 2. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the identified field's values belong to one of a plurality of types; and

3 the action fields in the entry are determined by the type of the identified field's

4 values.

1 3. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 2 wherein:

2 the plurality of types include types whose values belong to ordered sets that are
3 defined in the system in which the graphical user interface is used, types whose values
4 specify times, and types whose values specify persons.

1 4. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the user may set the action fields to specify that the identified field be cleared.

1 5. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the user may set the action fields to specify a value and to specify that the value
3 be assigned to the identified field.

1 6. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 when the field's entry is selected, the user may set the action fields to specify an
3 operation by which a new value for the identified field may be computed from a current
4 value which is the identified field's value when the record is returned.

1 7. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 6 wherein:

2 the field's value belongs to an ordered set of values; and
3 the user may set the action fields to specify an increment operation wherein the
4 new value is a value that follows the identified field's current value in the ordered set of
5 values.

1 8. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the identified field may have a null value when the record is returned; and
3 the user may set the action fields to specify an action that is to be performed when
4 the identified field has the null value and/or an action that is to be performed when the
5 identified field does not have the null value.

1 9. (currently amended) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the user may set the action fields to specify a reference field which is another field
3 in the record and a reference field operation by which a new value for the identified field
4 may be computed from a current value of the reference field, the current value being the
5 value that the reference field has when the record is returned from the query.

1 10. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 9 wherein:

2 the identified field may have a null value when the record is returned; and
3 the user may set the action fields to specify a first reference field and a first
4 reference field operation that is to be performed when the identified field has the null
5 value and/or a second reference field and a second reference field operation that is to be
6 performed when the identified field does not have the null value.

1 11. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 9 wherein:

2 the reference field operation assigns the current value of the reference field to the
3 identified field.

1 12. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 9 wherein:

2 the identified field and the reference field have time values; and
3 the user may further set the action fields to specify an amount of time by which
4 the reference field's current value is increased or decreased to compute the new value for
5 the identified field.

1 13. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 12 wherein:

2 the user may further set the action fields to specify the amount of time in one of a
3 plurality of ways.

1 14. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 13 wherein:

2 one of the plurality of ways is days; and

3 when days have been specified, the user may further set the action fields to
4 specify whether the days will be computed as business days or calendar days.

1 15. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 12 wherein:

2 one of the reference fields is a field whose value is always set to the current time
3 when the query returns the record.

1 16. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 1 wherein:

2 the identified field has a person value; and

3 the user may set the action fields to specify a role reference field from which a
4 new person value for the identified field may be obtained, the role reference field
5 referring to an ordered set of person values wherein one of the person values is a last-
6 used person value and the role reference field obtaining the next person value following
7 the last-used person value at the time the record is returned as the new person value for
8 the identified field.

1 17. (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 16 wherein:

2 the user may further set the action fields to specify a person reference field that
3 has a person value, the identified field being set from the value of the person reference
4 field when the record is returned.

1 **18.** (currently amended) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 17 wherein:

2 another action has been specified which assigns the person reference field a value
3 from a role reference field; and

4 when the record is returned, actions which assign person fields values from role
5 reference fields are performed prior to other actions.

1 **19.** (original) The graphical user interface set forth in claim 16 wherein:

2 the user may further set the action fields to directly specify a person value, the
3 identified field being set from the directly-specified person value when the record is
4 returned.